

Mature in Hope

Hope in Romans

Faith Hope and Love as the structure of Paul's letter to the Romans		
Faith: Romans 1-4	Hope: Romans 5-11	Love: Romans 12-15
Faith x 31 Hope x 2 Love x 1	Faith x 17 Hope x 9 Love x 7	Faith x 10 Hope x 5 Love x 8
Structure of the argument		
<p>1:16-17 The centrality of faith in the life of the Christian</p> <p>1:18-3:10 The Faithlessness of humanity and the justice of God</p> <p>3:21-26 God intervenes to bring about faith by his action at the cross</p> <p>3:27-4:25 Example from the story of Israel</p>	<p>5:1-5 The centrality of hope in the life of the Christian</p> <p>5:6-8:8 The hopelessness of humanity apart from grace</p> <p>8:9-39 God intervenes to bring about hope by sending his Spirit</p> <p>9:1-11:36 Example from the story of Israel</p>	<p>12:1-8 The Call to "perfection": Doing God's will, what is good and pleasing and perfect - Building up the body -</p> <p>12:9-10 Love, Love, Love</p> <p>12:11-21 Specific details</p> <p>13:1-14:23 Specific examples</p> <p>15:1-13 - Building up your neighbor and being united in Christ -</p>
Chapter titles		
Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from <i>faith</i> for <i>faith</i> ,	Rom 4:18 In <i>hope</i> he believed against <i>hope</i> ,	10 Be affectioned to <i>love</i> one another with brotherly <i>love</i> .

Rom 5:1-5 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (2) Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (3) Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, (4) and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, (5) and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Rejoicing or boasting?

Rejoice translates a verb usually rendered "boast"; it carries the thought of giving expression to what is felt and not simply the feeling. Perhaps "exult" (NEB) is as good a translation as any; Barrett says that the word "means a triumphant, rejoicing confidence".¹

Jer 9:23-24 Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, (24) but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

¹ Morris, L. (1988). *The Epistle to the Romans* (pp. 219–220). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God

Rom 1:21-23 For although they knew God, they did not **glorify** him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. (22) Claiming to be wise, they became fools, (23) and exchanged the **glory** of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Rom 2:6-11 He will render to each one according to his works: (7) to those who by patience in well-doing seek for **glory** and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; (8) but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. (9) There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, (10) but **glory** and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. (11) For God shows no partiality.

Rom 3:7 But if through my lie God's truth abounds to his **glory**, why am I still being condemned as a sinner?

Rom 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the **glory** of God,

The hope of the glory of God = the hope of sharing in God's own character, ie; everything about God for which we glorify him.

Maturity/perfection = holiness = glory

2Co 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Romans 5:1-5: Thesis

Justified by faith =

- Boast in the hope of the glory of God
- Boast in our sufferings because



Suffering produces endurance



Endurance produces character



Character produces hope



Hope is made certain because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit

Php 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8: Conclusion

The love of God poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit	Rom 8:15-30 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” (16) The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, (17) and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.
Rejoice in the hope of glory	
Suffering	(18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. (19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope (21) that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
Endurance	(22) For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. (23) And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (24) For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? (25) But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
Character	(26) Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (27) And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (28) And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (29) For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
The Hope of glory	(30) And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

5:6-11 The basis for our hope is the love of God

Rom 5:6-8 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. (7) For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— (8) but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:12-21 The hopelessness of Adam and the perfect hope of Christ

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— (13) To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. (14) Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

The Pattern:

Adam	Christ
(15) But the gift is not like the trespass.	
For if : the many died by the trespass of the one man,	how much more : did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!
(16) Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin:	
The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, (sin -> judgement -> condemnation)	the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. (trespass -> gift -> justification)
(17) For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man,	how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!
(18) Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people,	so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people.
(19) For, just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners,	so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.
(20) The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, (21) so that:	
just as sin reigned in death,	so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Adam's story: But the gift is not like the trespass. For the many died by the trespass of the one man. Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: Judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, so that through the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man. Consequently, that one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, for through the disobedience of the one man all were made sinners. The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase, so that sin reigned in death.

Christ's story: But the gift is not like the trespass. God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflows to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: the gift, following many trespasses brought justification, and so those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! So one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people and through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Hope structure in Romans 5-8

5:1-11 Thesis: Suffering – Endurance – Character – Hope, secured by the love of God

5:12-21 The hopelessness of Adam and the hopefulness of Christ

6:1 – 7:6 Hope that comes through the judgement of God

6: 1-14 United with Christ in his death

Rom 6:3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Rom 6:7 For one who has died has been set free from sin.

6:15-23 Example 1: the death of a slave

7:1-6 Example 2: the death of a husband

7:7-25 The hopelessness of attaining glory through the law

8:1-11 Hope that comes by the Spirit

8:12-17 The Love of God poured into our hearts

8:18-30 Suffering – Endurance – Character – Hope

8:31-39 Hope secured by the Love of God